

Leviticus 11

Jesus

Ch's 1-10 Instructions for Priests. Ch's 11-15 Instructions for the People
Beginning w/Dietary laws

- OT Dietary Laws given to Israel: To set them apart from pagan nations
- No longer for today and NC/Ceremonial Laws fulfilled by Jesus shed blood

Ephesians 2:13 But now **in Christ** Jesus you who once were far off [Gentiles/Unclean] have been brought near **by the blood of Christ**. 14 For He Himself is our peace, who has made both [Jew/Gentile] one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, 15 having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the **law of commandments** contained in ordinances, so as to **create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace,**

Gentiles: Once unclean now clean by the Blood of Christ
E.g. Vision received by Peter...

Acts 10:10-16

- Peter: Hungry/On roof/ Has vision
- Heaven opens/Great sheet descends
- Filled w/all kinds of ceremonially unclean animals
- Voice: Rise, Peter; kill and eat. **Not so, Lord!** I don't eat anything common or unclean

A. What God has cleansed is now Holy. E.g. Gentiles who choose Jesus
The New Covenant declares Old Covenant Dietary Laws obsolete

Hebrews 8:13 In that He says, "A new covenant," **He has made the first obsolete**

All Foods are declared clean by Jesus

Mark 7:18b... whatever enters a man from outside cannot defile him, 19 because it does not enter his heart but his stomach, and is eliminated, **thus purifying all foods?"**

All Foods are Declared Clean by Jesus
Reiterated by Apostles in the NT..

1 Timothy 4:4 ...every creature of God is good, and **nothing is to be refused if it is received with thanksgiving** 5 for it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.

Those who Demand we keep OT Dietary Laws?
Misdirected in Priority/Disconnected from Grace

Hebrews 9:9b ... [Sacrifices] cannot make him who performed the service perfect in regard to the conscience— 10 **concerned only with foods** and drinks, various washings, and fleshly ordinances imposed until the time of reformation..[New Covenant of Grace]

Hebrews 13:9 Do not be carried about with various and strange doctrines. For it is good that the heart be **established by grace, not with foods** which have not profited those who have been **occupied with them.**

OT Dietary Laws/Distinctions
Fulfilled by Jesus making Jew/Gentile one in Him

I. Foods Permitted/Forbidden

- Jesus sent the Holy Spirit *after* His Death/Resurrection/Ascension
- OT Israel did not have the Indwelling Holy Spirit. Only we the church do.

So God commands Moses/Aaron...

Teach My people to have Discretion /Discernment/Discipline in all things
To Differentiate between Clean/Unclean. Good/Evil. Right/Wrong

1 Now the LORD spoke to **Moses and Aaron**, saying to them, 2 "Speak to the children of Israel, saying, '**These are the animals which you may eat** among all the animals that are on the earth: 3 Among the animals, whatever divides the hoof, having cloven hooves and chewing the cud—that you may eat.

Clean Animals: Divided Hoofs AND Chews the Cud
IOWs Declared clean in light of their *Mouths and Feet*

Application: What we talk should be confirmed by how we walk
It is required of stewards to be faithful 1 Cor 4:2

4 Nevertheless **these you shall not eat** among those that chew the cud or those that have cloven hooves: the camel, because it chews the cud but does not have cloven hooves, is unclean to you; 5 the rock hyrax, because it chews the cud but does not have cloven hooves, is unclean to you; 6 the hare, because it chews the cud but does not have cloven hooves, is unclean to you; 7 and the swine, though it divides the hoof, having cloven hooves, yet does not chew the cud, is unclean to you. 8 Their flesh you shall not eat, and their carcasses you shall not touch. **They are unclean to you.**

Israel was commanded not to eat pig. What did Israel do?

Isaiah 65:4 I have stretched out My hands all day long to a rebellious people, Who walk in a way *that is* not good, According to their own thoughts; ³ A people who provoke Me to anger continually to My face; Who sacrifice in gardens, And burn incense on altars of brick; ⁴ Who sit among the graves, And spend the night in the tombs; **Who eat swine's flesh, And the broth of abominable things is in their vessels...**

Isaiah 66:17 ... "Those who sanctify themselves and purify themselves, To go to the gardens After an idol in the midst, **Eating swine's flesh and the abomination and the mouse,** Shall be consumed together," says the Lord.

Still under the Old Covenant dietary laws farmers in Gad [Gadarenes] were raising pigs. This outright rebellion against God's law opened the door for demonic possession of a man living among the tombs. Jesus came to Gad to deliver that man from Legion, many demons. [NJC]

Mark 5:12 ...all the demons begged Him, "**Send us to the swine**, that we may enter them."

If Gad had waited just a few more months...No problem
The New Covenant declares Old Covenant Dietary Laws Obsolete

- Peter rebuked **for not eating Pork**
 1. Peter was enjoying Biscuits/Gravy w/Gentiles
 2. Saw legalists/Feared man/Got up from his chair as others followed

Galatians 2:11...I [Paul] withstood him to his face, because he was to be blamed; 12 for before certain men came from James, **he would eat with the Gentiles**; but when they [legalists] came, **Peter withdrew and separated himself, fearing those who were of the circumcision.**

Peter feared Legalists
Do not fear Legalists. Put them in their place w/the Word of God

Galatians 2:16 ...know that a man is **not justified by the works of the law** but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified.

The New Covenant declares Old Covenant Dietary Laws obsolete

9 **'These you may eat** of all that are **in the water**: whatever in the water has **fins and scales**, whether in the seas or in the rivers—that you may eat. 10 But all in the seas or in the rivers that do not have fins and scales, all that move in the water or any living thing which is in the water, they are an abomination to you. 11 They shall be an abomination to you; you shall not eat their flesh, but you shall regard their **carcasses as an abomination**. 12 Whatever in the water does not have fins or scales—that shall be an abomination to you.

Clean Water Creatures: Fins/Scales
Not the *type of fish* but the *design of the fish*

A believer is one whose Propelling/Motivation is by the Holy Spirit
I.e. One who is clothed in the righteousness of Christ [McGee]

Next: Unclean Birds

13 **'And these you shall regard as an abomination among the birds**; they shall not be eaten, they are an abomination: the eagle, the vulture, the buzzard, 14 the kite, and the falcon after its kind; 15 every raven after its kind, 16 the ostrich, the short-eared owl, the sea gull, and the hawk after its kind; 17 the little owl, the fisher owl, and the screech owl; 18 the white owl, the jackdaw, and the carrion vulture; 19 the stork, the heron after its kind, the hoopoe, and the bat.

Next: Flying 4-legged insects

20 **All flying insects that creep on all fours shall be an abomination** to you. 21 Yet these you may eat of every flying insect that creeps on all fours: those which have jointed legs above their feet with which to leap on the earth. 22 **These you may eat:** the locust after its kind, the destroying locust after its kind, the cricket after its kind, and the grasshopper after its kind. 23 But all other flying insects which have four feet shall be an abomination to you.

All flying 4-Legged insects are unclean
Except those that have jointed legs and leap

- Locust were considered clean...

Matthew 3:4 ...John [last of the OT Prophets] was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist; and his food was **locusts and wild honey.**

II. Unclean Animals

24 **By these you shall become unclean;** whoever touches the carcass of any of them shall be unclean until evening; 25 whoever carries part of the carcass of any of them shall wash his clothes and be unclean until evening: 26 The carcass of any animal which divides the foot, but is not cloven-hoofed or does not chew the cud, is unclean to you. **Everyone who touches it shall be unclean.** 27 And whatever goes on its paws, among all kinds of animals that go on all fours, **those are unclean to you.** Whoever touches any such carcass shall be unclean until evening. 28 Whoever carries any such carcass shall wash his clothes and be unclean until evening. **It is unclean to you.**

OT: No gray areas. IOWs I will tell you what is unclean to you
NT: Indwelling Holy Spirit reveals what is unclean *to us*

Romans 14:23 ... whatever is not from faith is sin.

Isaiah 30:21 Your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, **"This is the way, walk in it,"** Whenever you turn to the right hand Or whenever you turn to the left.

29 **These also shall be unclean** to you among the **creeping things** that creep on the earth: the mole, the mouse, and the large lizard after its kind; 30 the gecko, the monitor lizard, the sand reptile, the sand lizard, and the chameleon. 31 These are unclean to you among all that creep. Whoever touches them when they are dead shall be unclean until evening. 32 Anything on which any of them falls, when they are dead shall be unclean, whether it is any item of wood or clothing or skin or sack, whatever item it is, in which any work is done, it must be put in water. And it shall be unclean until evening; then it shall be clean. 33 Any earthen vessel into which any of them falls you shall break; and whatever is in it shall be unclean: 34 in such a vessel, any

edible food upon which water falls becomes unclean, and any drink that may be drunk from it becomes unclean. 35 And everything on which a part of any such carcass falls shall be unclean; whether it is an oven or cooking stove, it shall be broken down; for they are unclean, and shall be unclean to you.

All Creeping Things are Unclean v 41

OT: Whoever/Whatever touches a dead creeping thing is unclean

NT: Watch out for lifeless creeping things
They make a church unclean...

2 Timothy 3:6 ... this sort are those who **creep into** households and make captives of gullible women loaded down with sins, led away by various lusts

Jude 1:4 [Beware] For certain men have **crept in** unnoticed...ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ **...12 These are spots** in your love feasts, while they feast with you without fear, serving only themselves. They are clouds without water, carried about by the winds; late autumn trees without fruit, **twice dead, pulled up by the roots...**

36 Nevertheless **a spring or a cistern, in which there is plenty of water, shall be clean**, but whatever touches any such carcass becomes unclean. 37 And if a part of any such carcass falls on any planting seed which is to be sown, it remains clean. 38 But if water is put on the seed, and if a part of any such carcass falls on it, it becomes unclean to you.

A spring in which is plenty of water shall be clean
Jesus the Fountain of Living Water: All He touches becomes clean

Ezekiel 47:1 Then he brought me back to the door of the temple; and there was **water, flowing from under the threshold of the temple** toward the east, for the front of the temple faced east; the water was flowing from under the right side of the temple, south of the altar **...8** Then he said to me: "This water flows toward the eastern region, goes down into the valley, and enters the sea. When it reaches the sea, its waters are healed. 9 And it shall be that every living thing that moves, wherever the rivers go, will live. There will be a very great multitude of fish, because **these waters go there; for they will be healed, and everything will live wherever the river goes.**

39 'And **if any animal which you may eat dies, he who touches its carcass shall be unclean until evening.** 40 He who eats of its carcass shall wash his clothes and be unclean until evening. He also who carries its carcass shall wash his clothes and be unclean until evening. 41 'And **every creeping thing that creeps** on the earth shall be an **abomination**. It shall not be eaten. 42 Whatever crawls on its belly, whatever goes on all fours, or whatever has many feet among all creeping things that creep on the earth—these you shall not eat, for they are an abomination. 43 You shall not **make yourselves abominable with any creeping thing** that creeps; nor shall you make yourselves unclean with them, lest you be defiled by them.

Why are Creeping Things so Abominable?
Because God said so...

Romans 1:22 Professing to be wise, they became fools, 23 and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and **creeping things.**

Point? People gravitate/worship things most Abominable to God

44 For **I am the LORD your God. You shall therefore consecrate yourselves,** and you shall be holy; for I am holy. Neither shall you defile yourselves with any **creeping thing that creeps on the earth.** 45 For I am the LORD who **brings you up out of the land of Egypt,** to be your God. You shall therefore **be holy, for I am holy.**

- You shall be Holy as I am Holy

Amos 3:3 Can two walk together, unless they are agreed?

Children should resemble their Father
I Am Holy/My Children are to be Holy

1 Peter 1:15 ...but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, 16 because it is written, **"Be holy, for I am holy."**

Ch 11 Summary...

46 'This is the law of the animals and the birds and every living creature that moves in the waters, and of every creature that creeps on the earth, 47 to distinguish between the unclean and the clean, and between the animal that may be eaten and the animal that may not be eaten.' "

Teach My people to have Discretion /Discernment/Discipline in all things
To Differentiate between Clean/Unclean/Good/Evil/Right/Wrong

Ezekiel 44:23 ... teach My people the difference between the **holy and the unholy,** and cause them to discern between the **unclean and the clean.**

Malachi 3:18 Then you shall again discern Between the **righteous and the wicked,** Between one who serves God And one who does not serve Him.

Jeremiah 15:19b ...I will bring you back; You shall stand before Me; If you take out the **precious from the vile,** You shall be as My mouth.

Leviticus 12 Sinners by Nature

Jesus

Psalm 51:4 Against You, You only, have I sinned, And done this evil in Your sight— That You may be found just when You speak, And blameless when You judge. 5 Behold, **I was brought**

forth in iniquity, And in sin my mother conceived me. 6 Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts, And in the hidden part You will make me to know wisdom.

I. Ritual After Childbirth

1 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 2 "Speak to the children of Israel, saying: 'If a woman has conceived, and borne a **male child**, then she shall be unclean seven days; as in the days of her customary impurity she shall be unclean. 3 And on the eighth day the flesh of his foreskin shall be circumcised. 4 She shall then continue in the blood of her purification thirty-three days. She shall not touch any hallowed thing, nor come into the sanctuary until the days of her purification are fulfilled. 5 'But if she bears a **female child**, then she shall be unclean two weeks, as in her customary impurity, and she shall continue in the blood of her purification sixty-six days.

Job 14:4 Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean? No one!

Job 25:4 How then can man be righteous before God? Or how can he be pure who is born of a woman?

The mother is unclean after childbirth?

Physical/Human Perspective: Childbirth is a beautiful time to rejoice
Spiritual Application: One Sinner begetting another sinner into a sinful world

- **Male:** Mother unclean 7 days. Day 8 circumcised. Purification 33 more days
- **Female:** Mother unclean 14 Days. Purification 66 more days

6 'When the days of her purification are fulfilled, whether for a son or a daughter, she shall bring to the priest a lamb of the first year as a burnt offering, and a young pigeon or a turtledove as a sin offering, to the door of the tabernacle of meeting. 7 Then he shall offer it before the LORD, and make atonement for her. And she shall be **clean from the flow of her blood**. This is the law for her who has borne a male or a female. 8 'And if she is not able to bring a lamb, then she may bring two turtledoves or two young pigeons—one as a burnt offering and the other as a sin offering. So the priest shall make atonement for her, and she will be clean.' "

Burnt Sacrifice brought to Priest
Speaking of Christ as our Substitute

1 Peter 1:18 ... you were not redeemed with corruptible things ...**19** but with the **precious blood of Christ**, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

John 1:29 [Jesus taking our place/our sin] "Behold! **The Lamb of God** who takes away the sin of the world!

- Lamb or 2 Turtledoves

Luke 2:22 Now when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were completed, [Joseph/Mary brought [baby Jesus] to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord 23 (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every male who opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord"), 24 and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the law of the Lord, "**A pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.**"

Why a Sacrifice after Childbirth?
One sinner bringing another sinner into the world

Both in desperate need of redemption by the blood of Christ
Mary needed that redemption...

Luke 1:46 [Mary's song] "My soul magnifies the Lord, 47 And **my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior** For He has regarded the lowly state of His maidservant..."

Leviticus 13

Jesus

I. Law Concerning Leprosy

1 And the **LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron**, saying: 2 "When a man has on the skin of his body a swelling, a scab, or a bright spot, and it becomes on the skin of his body like a leprous sore, then he shall be brought to Aaron the priest or to one of his sons the priests. 3 The priest shall examine the sore on the skin of the body; and if the hair on the sore has turned white, and the sore appears to be deeper than the skin of his body, it is a leprous sore. Then the priest shall examine him, and pronounce him **unclean**. 4 But if the bright spot is white on the skin of his body, and does not appear to be deeper than the skin, and its hair has not turned white, then the priest shall **isolate the one who has the sore seven days**. 5 And the priest shall examine him on the seventh day; and indeed if the sore appears to be as it was, and the sore has not spread on the skin, then the priest shall isolate him another seven days. 6 Then the priest shall examine him again on the seventh day; and indeed if the sore has faded, and the sore has not spread on the skin, then the priest shall **pronounce him clean**; it is only a scab, and he shall wash his clothes and be clean. 7 But if the scab should at all spread over the skin, after he has been seen by the priest for his cleansing, he shall be seen by the priest again. 8 And if the priest sees that the scab has indeed spread on the skin, then the priest shall pronounce him unclean. **It is leprosy.**

Laws regarding Growths/Sores and the Duty of the Priest
Examine Skin/Walls/Fabrics for Potential Disease

The Hebrew priest-physicians appear to have been the first in the ancient world to isolate persons suspected of infectious or contagious diseases [Harrison]

Determine by examination: Actual leprosy vs what only looks like leprosy
Spiritual Application: Don't be quick to judge [E.g. Hannah]

V 8 It is leprosy: Deal w/it severely

These precautions were taken not merely for sanitary reasons or to guard against contagion, ... but in order that the people might be taught through the parable of leprosy *what a fearful and loathsome thing sin is* in the sight of God. [Taylor]

- Sin is serious/To be dealt w/severely
 1. Individual Repentance
 2. Church Discipline

Leprosy: Vivid picture of the Effect of Sin

Insidious Progression/Numbness: Similar to how leprosy starts as a minor, painless spot that grows and causes nerve damage/numbness, sin often begins small, grows slowly, and numbs a person's conscience, making them desensitized to spiritual dangers.

Defilement/Impurity: In Levitical law, leprosy was classified as a state of "uncleanliness" rather than merely a disease, representing a lack of holiness. In the same way, sin defiles the soul, making it unfit for holy presence.

Separation/Isolation: Lepers were forced to live outside the camp, separated from the community and the tabernacle. Sin causes a similar separation, severing fellowship with God and breaking communal bonds.

Disfigurement/Corruption: Leprosy often resulted in physical disfigurement and decay. In a similar manner, sin is viewed as damaging the soul, rendering it "unrecognizable" or spiritually ugly.

Incurable/Fatal: Just as ancient leprosy was viewed as incurable by human means, leading to a state of being "dead" while alive, sin is viewed as a condition requiring divine intervention for healing.

It begins as nothing/Painless in its first stages. It grows slowly/Often decreases for a while and then returns. It numbs the senses — one cannot feel in the afflicted area. It causes decay and deformity [Guzik]

Like leprosy sin destroys the whole man. Both are corrosive in the effect working slowly and surely until finally they break out in an angry display that eventuates in death. No man ever went wrong overnight... [McGee]

Ends in Death

James 1:14 ...each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. 15 Then, when **desire has conceived**, it gives **birth to sin**; and **sin**, when it is full-grown, **brings forth death**. 16 Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren.

For us, the effects of living in a sinful world wear on our physical bodies
But we do not lose heart...

2 Corinthians 4:16b ...Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the **inward man is being renewed day by day**.

9 "When the leprous sore is on a person, then **he shall be brought to the priest**. 10 And the priest shall examine him; and indeed if the swelling on the skin is white, and it has turned the hair white, and there is a spot of raw flesh

in the swelling, 11 it is an old leprosy on the skin of his body. The priest shall pronounce him unclean, and shall not isolate him, for he is unclean.

Jesus sent the Lepers to the Priests as per OT Law

Luke 17:12b [Jesus met...] ten men who were lepers, who **stood afar off**. 13 And they lifted up their voices and said, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" 14 So when He saw them, He said to them, "**Go, show yourselves to the priests.**" And so it was that as they went, **they were cleansed**. 15 And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, returned, and with a loud voice glorified God

Jesus Loves to Cleanse Lepers

Matthew 8:2 And behold, a leper came and **worshiped Him**, saying, "**Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean.**" 3 Then Jesus put out His hand and touched him, saying, "**I am willing; be cleansed.**" Immediately his leprosy was cleansed. 4 And Jesus said to him, "See that you tell no one; but go your way, **show yourself to the priest**, and offer the gift that Moses commanded, as a testimony to them."

Humility to Acknowledge we are Unclean
Humility to Accept the Cure

▪ **Naaman:** Pagan Leader

1. Commander of Syria
2. Great and Honorable
3. Sent to house of Elisha
4. Elisha sends his servant to the door w/message

Go wash in the Jordan 7 times
Your flesh shall be restored/You shall be clean...

2 Kings 5:11 But **Naaman became furious**, and went away and said, "Indeed, I said to myself, '**He will surely come out to me**, and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God, and wave his hand over the place, and heal the leprosy.' 12 Are not the Abanah and the Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?" So he turned and **went away in a rage**. 13 And his servants came near and spoke to him, and said, "My father, if the prophet had told you to do something great, would you not have done it? How much more then, when he says to you, 'Wash, and be clean?'" 14 So he went down and dipped seven times in the Jordan, according to the saying of the man of God; and his **flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean**.

When the self-righteous become humble...it is beautiful
When the humble become proud...it's ugly

2 Chronicles 26:16 [Uzziah: Great King...] But when he was strong his heart was lifted up, to his destruction, for he transgressed against the Lord his God by entering the temple of the Lord to burn incense on the altar of incense. 17 So Azariah the priest went in after him, and with him were eighty priests of the Lord—valiant men. 18 And they withstood King Uzziah, and said to him, "It is not for you, Uzziah, to burn incense to the Lord, but for the priests, the sons of Aaron, who are consecrated to burn incense. Get out of the sanctuary, for you have trespassed! You shall have no honor from the Lord God." 19 Then Uzziah became

furious; and he had a censer in his hand to burn incense. And while he was angry with the priests, leprosy broke out on his forehead, before the priests in the house of the Lord, beside the incense altar ...**20 And Azariah the chief priest and all the priests looked at him, and there, on his forehead, he was leprous;** so they thrust him out of that place. Indeed he also hurried to get out, because the Lord had struck him. 21 King Uzziah **was a leper until the day of his death.** He dwelt in an isolated house, because he was a leper; for he was cut off from the house of the Lord.

Numbers 12:9 [Miriam/Aaron spoke against their brother Moses] So the anger of the Lord was aroused against them, and He departed. 10 And when the cloud departed from above the tabernacle, suddenly **Miriam became leprous, as white as snow** [Moses intervenes] ...**14** Then the Lord said to Moses, "If her father had but spit in her face, would she not be shamed seven days? Let her be shut out of the camp seven days, and afterward she may be received again." 15 So **Miriam was shut out of the camp seven days,** and the **people did not journey till Miriam was brought in again.**

When the humble become proud: Ugly/Damaging/Contagious as Leprosy
When the self-righteous humble themselves: Beautiful/Healing/Just as Contagious

12 "And if leprosy breaks out all over the skin, and the leprosy covers all the skin of the one who has the sore, from his head to his foot, wherever the priest looks, 13 then the priest shall consider; and indeed if the leprosy has covered all his body, he shall **pronounce him clean** who has the sore. It has all turned white. He is clean. 14 But when raw flesh appears on him, he shall be unclean. 15 And the priest shall examine the raw flesh and pronounce him to be unclean; for the raw flesh is unclean. It is leprosy. 16 Or if the raw flesh changes and turns white again, he shall come to the priest. 17 And the priest shall examine him; and indeed if the sore has turned white, then the priest shall pronounce him clean who has the sore. He is clean.

- Full Body Leprosy found: Pronounce him clean?

Spiritual Application: They recognize their pitiful state
Understanding their Complete Depravity from Head to Toe

Revelation 3:15 I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could **wish you were cold or hot.** 6 So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth. 17 Because you say, 'I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing'—and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked

1 John 1:8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

So, Leprosy: Vivid picture of the effect of Sin
Next: Boils...

18 "If the body develops a **boil in the skin,** and it is healed, 19 and in the place of the boil there comes a white swelling or a bright spot, reddish-white,

then it shall be shown to the priest; 20 and if, when the priest sees it, it indeed appears deeper than the skin, and its hair has turned white, the priest shall pronounce him unclean. It is a leprous sore which has broken out of the boil. 21 But if the priest examines it, and indeed there are no white hairs in it, and it is not deeper than the skin, but has faded, then the priest shall isolate him seven days; 22 and if it should at all spread over the skin, then the priest shall pronounce him unclean. It is a leprous sore. 23 But if the bright spot stays in one place, and has not spread, it is the scar of the boil; and the priest shall pronounce him clean.

- **Another duty of Priests:** Examine boils/Follow up

Spiritual Application

Leadership is must deal with the ugliness of sin/aftermath

Next: Burn on the Skin...

24 "Or if the **body receives a burn** on its skin by fire, and the raw flesh of the burn becomes a bright spot, reddish-white or white, 25 then the priest shall examine it; and indeed if the hair of the bright spot has turned white, and it appears deeper than the skin, it is leprosy broken out in the burn. Therefore the priest shall pronounce him unclean. It is a leprous sore. 26 But if the priest examines it, and indeed there are no white hairs in the bright spot, and it is not deeper than the skin, but has faded, then the priest shall isolate him seven days. 27 And the priest shall examine him on the seventh day. If it has at all spread over the skin, then the priest shall pronounce him unclean. It is a leprous sore. 28 But if the bright spot stays in one place, and has not spread on the skin, but has faded, it is a swelling from the burn. The priest shall pronounce him clean, for it is the scar from the burn.

- **Priests judge severity of burn:** Examination same as w/boils

Next: Sores on the Skin...

29 "If a man or woman has **a sore on the head or the beard**, 30 then the priest shall examine the sore; and indeed if it appears deeper than the skin, and there is in it thin yellow hair, then the priest shall pronounce him unclean. It is a scaly leprosy of the head or beard. 31 But if the priest examines the scaly sore, and indeed it does not appear deeper than the skin, and there is no black hair in it, then the priest shall isolate the one who has the scale seven days. 32 And on the seventh day the priest shall examine the sore; and indeed if the scale has not spread, and there is no yellow hair in it, and the scale does not appear deeper than the skin, 33 he shall shave himself, but the scale he shall not shave. And the priest shall isolate the one who has the scale another seven days. 34 On the seventh day the priest shall examine the scale; and indeed if the scale has not spread over the skin, and does not appear deeper

than the skin, then the priest shall pronounce him clean. He shall wash his clothes and be clean. 35 But if the scale should at all spread over the skin after his cleansing, 36 then the priest shall examine him; and indeed if the scale has spread over the skin, the priest need not seek for yellow hair. He is unclean. 37 But if the scale appears to be at a standstill, and there is black hair grown up in it, the scale has healed. He is clean, and the priest shall pronounce him clean. 38 "If a man or a woman has **bright spots on the skin** of the body, specifically white bright spots, 39 then the priest shall look; and indeed if the bright spots on the skin of the body are dull white, it is a white spot that grows on the skin. **He is clean.**

- Priests examine body parts w/hair

The word used here literally means 'a tearing off,' something so annoying that the person who has it cannot keep his hands off it." [Peter-Contesse]

Next: Baldness w/Soars...

40 "As for the man whose **hair has fallen from his head**, he is bald, but he is clean. 41 He whose hair has fallen from his forehead, he is bald on the forehead, but he is clean. 42 And if there is on the bald head or bald forehead a reddish-white sore, it is leprosy breaking out on his bald head or his bald forehead. 43 Then the priest shall examine it; and indeed if the swelling of the sore is reddish-white on his bald head or on his bald forehead, as the appearance of leprosy on the skin of the body, 44 he is a leprous man. He is unclean. The priest shall surely pronounce him unclean; his sore is on his head.

Next: Personal Response to the Revelation of Leprosy

45 "Now the leper on whom the sore is, his clothes shall be torn and his head bare; and he shall cover his mustache, and cry, '**Unclean! Unclean!**' 46 He shall be unclean. All the days he has the sore he shall be unclean. He is unclean, and he shall dwell alone; **his dwelling shall be outside the camp.**

Correct response to unrepentant sin...

- Perpetual State of Mourning [*as of for the dead*]
- Perpetual State of Humiliation
- Perpetual State of Exclusion [*from the clean*]

Today: No shame/Public outcry re. Sin

Jeremiah 6:15 Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? No! They were not at all ashamed; Nor **did they know how to blush.**

1 John 1:8 If we say that we have no sin, we **1) deceive ourselves**, and **2) truth is not in us** v**10 ...3) we make [God] a liar**, and **4) His word is not in us.**

I am Unclean! Unclean!
Humble Acknowledgement of Sin as we see God

Isaiah 6:5 "Woe is me, for **I am undone!** Because **I am a man of unclean lips...**

Luke 5:8 When Simon Peter [his great catch of fish] , he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "**Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!**"

Mourning/Humiliation/Exclusion

Psalms 38:11 My loved ones and my friends stand aloof from my plague, And my relatives stand afar off.

Lepers, draw near to Jesus...

Luke 17:12 Then as He entered a certain village, there met Him ten men who were lepers, who **stood afar off.**

II. Law Concerning Leprous Garments

47 "Also, if a **garment has a leprous plague** in it, whether it is a woolen garment or a linen garment, 48 whether it is in the warp or woof of linen or wool, whether in leather or in anything made of leather, 49 and if the plague is greenish or reddish in the garment or in the leather, whether in the **warp or in the woof**, or in anything made of leather, it is a leprous plague and shall be **shown to the priest**. 50 The priest shall examine the plague and isolate that which has the plague seven days. 51 And he shall examine the plague on the seventh day. If the plague has spread in the garment, either in the warp or in the woof, in the leather or in anything made of leather, the plague is an active leprosy. It is unclean. 52 He shall therefore burn that garment in which is the plague, whether warp or woof, in wool or in linen, or anything of leather, for it is an active leprosy; the garment shall be **burned in the fire.**

- **Leprosy:** General term can apply to mold/mildew/fungus
- **Warp/Woof:** Things that are knitted
- **Fabrics given to priest/Isolated 7 Days/Burned if spread**

53 "But if the priest examines it, and indeed the **plague has not spread** in the garment, either in the warp or in the woof, or in anything made of leather, 54 then the priest shall command that they **wash** the thing in which is the plague; and he shall **isolate** it another **seven days**. 55 Then the priest shall examine the plague after it has been washed; and indeed if the plague has not changed its color, though the plague has not spread, it is unclean, and you shall **burn it in the fire**; it continues eating away, whether the damage is outside or inside. 56 If the priest examines it, and indeed the plague has faded after washing it, then he shall tear it out of the garment, whether out of the warp or out of the woof, or out of the leather. 57 But if it appears again in the

garment, either in the warp or in the woof, or in anything made of leather, it is a spreading plague; you shall **burn with fire** that in which is the plague. 58 And if you wash the garment, either warp or woof, or whatever is made of leather, if the plague has **disappeared** from it, then it shall be **washed a second time, and shall be clean.**

- If not spreading: Wash/Isolate another 7 days/If it spreads burn
- If mold/mildew/ fungus fades: Cut the infected portion off
- If it returns: Burn it
- If it has not returned: Wash a second time and wear

Washed a Second Time
God's Mercies are New Every Morning

1 John 1:8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

59 **"This is the law of the leprous plague** in a garment of wool or linen, either in the warp or woof, or in anything made of leather, to pronounce it **clean** or to pronounce it **unclean.**"

Ch's 11-15: Learning to make distinctions: Discretion/Discernment/Discipline
Next time: Rituals re. the Cleansing of Lepers